

SN. 09/091,805

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. MATS:006

REMARKS

Claims 17-20, 22, 23, 24, 26, 30, 40, 41, and 44-53 are now pending in this application for which applicants seek reconsideration. Claims 20, 40, and 41 have been allowed. Claims 22-24 and 26 have been withdrawn as directed to non-elected invention.

Amendment

Claim 17 has been amended to place it in condition for allowance by overcoming the § 112, second paragraph, rejection and more clearly defining the notch in terms of the thickness of the yoke. In this regard, applicants thank the examiner providing suggestion for defining over the applied reference during an informal telephonic interview of today. New claim 53 has been added to further define the present invention.

The present amendment officially cancels claims 2, 6, 9, 12, 14, 21, 25, 28, and 32-37 (which were previously canceled in accordance with PCT Rule 19(1)).

No new matter has been introduced.

Art Rejection

Claims 17-19, 44, and 46-52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as anticipated by Takahashi (JP 7-320961). Claim 45 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Takahashi in view of Saitoh (USP 5,204,653). As explained during the informal telephonic interview, claim 17 defines over these references because Takahashi would not have disclosed or taught extending its inside terminal outside its closing magnetic core through its notch, with the inside terminal having a portion that extends substantially parallel with the planar body portion inside the notch within the thickness of the planar body. Takahashi's inside terminal at best is sandwiched between the upper surfaces of its upper and lower magnetic yokes so that it is not maintained within the thickness of its planar body portion.

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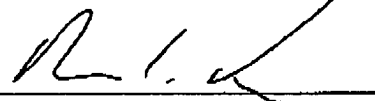
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Conclusion

Claims 17-20, 22-24, 26, 30, 40, 41, and 44-53 are in condition for allowance.

Applicants thus urge the examiner to issue an early Notice of Allowance. Should the examiner have any issues concerning this reply or any other outstanding issues remaining in this application, applicants urge the examiner to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: 09-19-03

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